

Public Notice – Environmental Project

PURPOSE OF NOTICE:

The Department of Environmental Quality seeks public comment on the state's response to the environmental aspects of a proposed project in Mathews County, Virginia.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:

May 21, 2013 to June 18, 2013

TYPE OF RESPONSE:

Federal Consistency Determination

DEQ is reviewing a proposed federal action to determine if it is consistent with the Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program (VCP) established pursuant to the U.S. Coastal Zone Management Act. The VCP seeks to protect the quality of air, water or other natural resources in Virginia's coastal area.

NAME OF AGENCY PROPOSING THE PROJECT:

DOD/U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The Mathews Land Conservancy (MLC) has submitted a Joint Permit Application to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) for the issuance of an individual permit pursuant to Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act to make improvements to Williams Wharf Landing on the East River in Mathews County. The site was previously home to a number of commercial operations including a marine railway, Billups Oysters, three oil companies, and a marine repair business. When purchased by the MLC, the site contained several dilapidated oil supply support structures and the site as a whole was environmentally compromised. MLC has spent the past twenty years removing the old deteriorating structures and cleaning up the site. MLC further plans the following actions at the site: demolish and remove the existing docks on the north and west sides of the site; remove and replace riprap to facilitate the new building foundation construction; construct a sustainable rowing and sailing center with an open, precast concrete pile foundation and open decks; construct two 80-foot x 16-foot floating docks; construct a fixed public dock on the west side of the site with a 100-foot x 14-foot "T-Head" for large historic and educational vessel mooring, public fishing, and event-specific activities. MLC has submitted a Federal Consistency Certification that finds the proposed project consistent with the enforceable policies of the Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program.

HOW TO COMMENT:

DEQ accepts comments from the public by e-mail, fax or postal mail. All comments must include the name, address and telephone number of the person commenting and be received by DEQ within the comment period. The public may review the project documents at DEQ's central office in Richmond.

CONTACT FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS, DOCUMENT REQUESTS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

NAME; John E. Fisher
DEQ Central Office
Office of Environmental Impact Review
629 East Main Street, Room 633
Richmond, Virginia, 23219;

Phone: (804) 698-4339
Fax: (804) 698-4319
E-mail: john.fisher@deq.virginia.gov